

Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 15, 2011

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. This information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. It is our intent to offer this e-newsletter weekly when the state legislature is in session. *The Legislative Update is non-partisan in nature.* Thank you for your interest!

General Overview

With an anticipated sine die (adjournment) of the 50th regular legislative session in the days ahead, more than 533 floor actions took place in the legislature this week. The House worked into the night Thursday, April 14th. Both the Senate and the House are adjourned until Monday, April 25th.

*At the end of day 96, **1,350 bills posted** and **237 passed**, **4 vetoed**, **134 signed**; **144 memorials or resolutions posted**, **25 passed**.*

Bi-partisan support of veterans

Passed and signed by the Governor this week, **HB2410 honorable discharged veterans; in-state tuition**: grants in-state student status for the purposes of tuition at any Arizona public university or community college to any person honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces.

STATE LEGISLATION:

Some of the bills signed by the Governor this week (from the Council's lists):

H2155: Dental Board; Omnibus – see fact sheet posted at Arizona State Legislature website:

http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/1r/sunmary/h.hb2155_04-06-11_astransmittedtogovernor.doc.htm&Session_ID=102

H2157: Stroke Care; DHS – see fact sheet posted at Arizona State Legislature website:

http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/1r/sunmary/h.hb2157_04-06-11_astransmittedtogovernor.doc.htm&Session_ID=102

H2169: Dental Board; Fees – see fact sheet posted at Arizona State Legislature website:

http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/1r/sunmary/h.hb2169_04-06-11_astransmittedtogovernor.doc.htm&Session_ID=102

[mmmary/h.hb2169_04-11-11-
%20astransmittedtogovernor.doc.htm&Session_ID=102](http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/1r/summary/h.hb2169_04-11-11-%20astransmittedtogovernor.doc.htm&Session_ID=102)

H2233: Mobile Dental Facilities – see fact sheet posted at Arizona State Legislature website: http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/1r/summary/h.hb2233_04-06-11_astransmittedtogovernor.doc.htm&Session_ID=102

H2372: Conservatorships; Guardianships; County Reimbursement – see fact sheet posted at Arizona State Legislature website: http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/1r/summary/h.hb2372_04-11-11_astransmittedtogovernor.doc.htm&Session_ID=102

H2634: DHS; Health Care Institutions; Rules – see fact sheet posted at Arizona State Legislature website: http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/1r/summary/h.hb2634_04-11-11_astransmittedtogovernor.doc.htm&Session_ID=102

Some of the bills passed and sent to the Governor (from the Council's lists):

H2402: Guardians of Incapacitated Persons: modifies certain statutes related to the rights and duties of a ward and guardian regarding inpatient treatment for mental health care and court options regarding involuntary treatment for mental health care. Establishes guidelines for the retention or suspension of an incapacitated person's driver license.

S1038: Assisted Living Caregivers; Regulation: transfers regulatory oversight of training programs for assisted living facilities from the Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS) and the Private Postsecondary Board (PPS Board) to the Board of Examiners of Nursing Care Administrators and Assisted Living Facility Managers (Board).

S1082: DES; fingerprinting; finger imaging: modifies the requirements for the finger imaging programs for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

S1175: Categories of Licensure; homeopaths: establishes a new licensing category of doctor of homeopathy (DH).

Bills on calendars for next week:

Monday, 4/18

H2024: Retirement; ASRS; Amendment: 4/18 Senate Committee of the Whole

H2424: Probate; Wards; Rights: 4/18 11:15 am, Senate Caucus Room

S1499: Probate; Omnibus: 4/18 House Third Reading

For a complete list and review of *all the bills* tracked this session, see the information provided at the LIST links below.

Of the bills posted, several may be of interest to Arizona seniors and have been tracked by the Council and appear on the *Legislative Update* web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking lists does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill.** It does mean that the bill topic is something that is may be of interest to or have an impact on Arizona seniors so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

SHORT LIST (Bills having to do with health and safety of older adults.)

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24673&listid=44407&print=true>

FULL LIST:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24635&listid=43827&print=true>

Note: The SHORT LIST and FULL LIST website links provide you with the current status of the bills being tracked by the Council and are available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. ***These lists will continue to be edited and updated as long as the legislative session continues.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

Share your thoughts! If you have a particular perspective to share with the administration or the legislature, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

Governor's Office of Constituent Services at 602-542-1318 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 or you may **contact the legislator from your area**. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

If you're interested in committee membership and schedules, you can find that information at the Arizona State Legislature website. Committee links are found at: <http://www.azleg.gov/StandingCom.asp>. Committee agendas and hearing schedules are posted at: <http://www.azleg.gov/CommitteeAgendas.asp>.

If you're interested in learning more about or reviewing the legislative process, see the *Bill Process* link <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf> or *Bill to Law* link <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> at the Arizona State Legislature website.

FEDERAL OVERVIEW:

Senate passed H.R.1473, Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act. The Senate and House are adjourned for two week state/district work periods.

H.R.1440

Family and Medical Leave Enhancement Act of 2011

The bill was introduced on April 4, 2011 by Representative Carolyn B. Maloney (NY-14). It amends the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and title 5, United States Code, to allow employees to take, as additional leave, parental involvement leave to participate in or attend their children's and grandchildren's educational and extracurricular activities, and to clarify that leave may be taken for routine family medical needs and to assist elderly relatives, and for other purposes.

Eligible employees are entitled to leave to:

- participate in or attend an activity that is sponsored by a school or community organization and relates to a program of the school or organization that is attended by a son or daughter or a grandchild of the employee; or
- meet routine family medical care needs, including for medical and dental appointments of the employee or a son, daughter, spouse, or grandchild of the employee, or to attend to the care needs of elderly individuals who are related to the eligible employee, including visits to nursing homes and group homes.

The bill outlines limitations, requirements, defines school, community organization, and substitution of paid leave and includes entitlement of federal employees leave for parental involvement and family wellness as well.

On April 8, 2011, the bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce and in addition, the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and House Administration.

Update on HOPE for Alzheimer's Act

H.R.1386

Health Outcomes, Planning, and Education for Alzheimer's Act

Introduced by Representative Edward J. Markey (MA-7) on April, 6, 2011, the Hope for Alzheimer's Act amends title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of comprehensive Alzheimer's disease and related dementia diagnosis and services in order to improve care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias by improving detection, diagnosis, and care planning.

On 4/6/2011, H.R.1386 was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Ways and Means.

NOTE: If you want more information specific to any bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*. Did you know? You can access the latest legislative activities and visit congressional schedules and calendars under *Current Activity* on the Thomas homepage.

Contact Your Congressional Member! If you are interested in Congressional actions, bills or wish to share your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for members of the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the **Senate**.

Other News:

The U.S. Social Security Administration's new *Boldly Go* campaign will appeal to Star Trek fans. For more information:
<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/>

From the U.S. Department of Labor -

Fall Prevention directive upheld:

<http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/osh/OSHA20110543.htm>

Information from the National Center on Senior Transportation -

Easter Seals, American Medical Association and LogistiCare to study impact of transportation access on health care:

http://projectaction.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ESPA_study_transportation_access_health&autologin=true

*The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Highway Safety Research Center at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill developed **The Pedestrian Safety Workshop: A Focus on Older Adults**. You can download instructor guides and videos online at:*

http://www.rsa.unc.edu/psw/instructor_modules.cfm

http://www.rsa.unc.edu/psw/watching_modules.cfm

Answers to questions about long-term care are provided at the **National Institutes of Health** website: <http://nihseniorhealth.gov/longtermcare/toc.html>

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging (AZ4A) now has an official website: <http://www.azaging.org/>.

WHAT: Pima Council on Aging Older Adult Suicide Prevention Program, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)

WHEN: Monday, Tuesday May 9 & 10, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Pima Council on Aging, 8467 E. Broadway, Tucson, Arizona

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/PCOASuicidePreventionBrochure0110.pdf>

WHAT: The Sacred Journey of Caregiving; A Transformational Approach to Life presented by Western Arizona Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging and the Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter Northern Arizona Region

WHEN: May 11, 2011, 9 am to 3:00 pm, Bullhead City Chamber of Commerce, 1251 Highway 95, Bullhead City, Arizona

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/ConferenceRegistration.pdf>

WHAT: Caregiving Class on Memory Assistance & Planning Services (MAPS)

WHEN: April 29, 2011, 8:30 am to 3 pm, Foundation for Senior Living Caregiver House, 1202 E. Thomas Road, Phoenix, Arizona

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/April2011MapsNEWv3.pdf>

WHAT: 2011 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Open House in Maricopa County sponsored by Maricopa Elder Abuse Prevention Alliance & Area Agency on Aging Region One.

WHEN: Wednesday, June 15th, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm, North Phoenix Baptist Church, 5757 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/ElderAbuseAwarenessDayFlyer2011.pdf>

The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging held Senior Action Day today in Willcox, Arizona offering a chance for seniors and their advocates to share a dialogue with the Council and invited elected officials. We thank those who took time to join the discussion and share your input!

Our sincere thanks to SEAGO and Willcox United Methodist Church for helping make the event happen.

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, you can do so by sending an email with the description to: gaca@az.gov. Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

This week is National Volunteer Week, and we honor all volunteers who dedicate time and energy to make their communities a good place for older Arizonans.

Thank you!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging